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Friends of John LaFalce
625 Fairmont Avenue
North Tonawanda, New York 14120
Theresa M. Opalinski, Treasurer

August 10, 2000

Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: April Quarterly Reports (1/1/00 - 2/29/00) and (3/1/00 - 3/31/00);
Identification Number: C00025379

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your letter dated July 25, 2000 regarding three (3) contributions which appear to have exceeded limits set forth in the Act. I apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for bringing this to my attention. In as much as I became treasurer during the filing dates of these reports and was still learning my duties, I consider this a learning experience and thank you for your patience and assistance. At the same time, I also understand the importance of accuracy in the FEC reporting process and take my role seriously.

With regard to the items in your letter, I offer the following response:

Since these contributions were not formally designated at the time of contribution, they were applied to the 2000 Primary election. While all three persons made contributions in 2000, two made previous contributions in 1999 and the third made a previous contribution in 1998. Like the contributions made in 2000, previous contributions by these individuals were also not designated, which meant that they were also applied to the 2000 Primary. Since 1998, our campaign has had three different treasurers, and this may also account for some inconsistencies - certainly not intentional - in our internal check and balance process. While I have hard copy of all files, as the newest and most recent treasurer, I also thought that by utilizing the on-line FEC filing program, duplications would be flagged by the system's database component. (It appears this only holds true for contributions received within the same calendar year - not by election as I had initially understood.) While I do go through the previous 1999 reports, I obviously missed these previous donors during my manual search. (As a new treasurer, I am still becoming familiar with all the procedures and files which are part of this function.) I also assumed that donations given in 1998 would have been designated to the 1998 campaign, and so I had not manually referenced the last 1998 report when I filed the above noted reports.

As suggested in your letter, the contributions in question have been addressed in the following manner:

- Letters from the campaign chairman have been forwarded to the individuals requesting clear designation of contributions for both the 2000 primary and 2000 general election. (Copies of these letters are attached for two of the contributors. The third letter is being forwarded to me today, but rather than hold-up this